GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3016
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2001
REVIEW OF ONGOING SCHEMES OF HANDICRAFTS
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed recently the ongoing programmes and schemes formulated for promotion and development of handicrafts in the selected areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and provided for upgradation of skills of traditional artisans and craftsmen during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 till date, State-wise;

(d) the details of new schemes taken up/proposed for upgradation of skills of artisans and craftsmen through institutional support; and

(e) the other steps taken for promotion of traditional handicrafts of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. However, the existing schemes of the Government for promotion and development of handicrafts are reviewed for the country as a whole frequently at the level of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) and at the level of Secretary (Textiles). Schemes are also reviewed at the All India Handicrafts Board Meeting under the Chairmanship of Minister of Textiles.As a result of these reviews schemes are modified to ensure effective implementation and for providing greater benefits to the artisans. Moreover, in the wake of post WTO era, more new components have been added to make the schemes more effective and broad based.

(c): No state-wise funds are allocated. However the funds allocated for upgradation of skills of traditional artisans and craftsmen in the country during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 has been to the tune of Rs.3273.10 lakhs, Rs.3025.10 lakhs and Rs.2921.50 lakhs respectively.

(d): With a view to ensure sustainable development of the handicrafts sector, the Government has recently launched a new comprehensive scheme named `Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojna` which seeks to develop selected artisans clusters into professionally managed self - reliant community enterprises working on the principle of effective member participation and mutual cooperation, the scheme shall take care of the needs of upgradation of skills of artisans and craftspersons.

(e): The steps taken include: training for skill upgradation; marketing development support; revival of languishing crafts; design and technology upgradation, setting up of Craft Development Centers and Common Facility Centers and Exhibition and Publicity.